



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held May 13, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“Assemblymember Correa has introduced AB 496, which would establish the Santa Ana River Conservancy to acquire and direct the management of public lands in the Santa Ana River watershed. The purpose of the Conservancy would be to provide recreational opportunities, open space, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, wetland protection and restoration, and protection and maintenance of water quality in the Santa Ana River for beneficial uses. According to the bill, these goals should be accomplished without infringing on water supply and necessary flood control capabilities.

“The Santa Ana River watershed includes part of the Cities of Claremont, Diamond Bar, and Pomona, as well as a small portion of unincorporated eastern Los Angeles County. AB 496 establishes the Conservancy’s governing board, which would consist of 13 voting members, including representatives from the Board of Supervisors, Council of Governments, and appointed public members from the Counties of San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange. No representatives from the County of Los Angeles are included.

“The purpose of the bill is consistent with Los Angeles County’s goals of pursuing open space, recreation, and habitat enhancement opportunities. Similar goals have been established and promoted through the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC). Because part of the San Gabriel River watershed is in Orange County, the RMC’s governing board includes representatives from Orange County. However, AB 496 has omitted Los Angeles County from the Santa Ana River Conservancy’s planning and policy development process.”

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in support of AB 496 (Correa), legislation which would establish the Santa Ana River Conservancy to acquire and direct the management of public lands in the Santa Ana River watershed, if amended to:
  - a. Expand the number of voting members on the Conservancy's Board from 13 to 15;
  - b. Require that one of the added voting members be a Los Angeles County Supervisor and that the other be a representative from the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments; and
  - c. Prohibit the Conservancy from entering into any joint powers authority or other authority that has the power to use eminent domain to acquire property; and
2. Instructed the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to work with Assemblymember Correa to amend AB 496 as recommended.

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Each Supervisor  
County Counsel